

# Plans Ahead on John Muir Home

#	What To Do	Date Done
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Research  
Works!

DR. R. R. GREEN  
375 E. 2ND ST. No.  
HEBER CITY, UTAH  
84032



# Wasatch Co. Building Survey

Name of Building: John Muir Home

Information Required	Date Found
Location:	
Address: 292 No 600 E Town:	
Architect:	
Builders:	
Building Material: Red Sandstone	
Style of Building:	
Date Built:	
Original Owners:	
FGS	
Pedigree	
Histories	
Pictures	
Subsequent Owners:	
Notes:	
References: 1.	
2.	

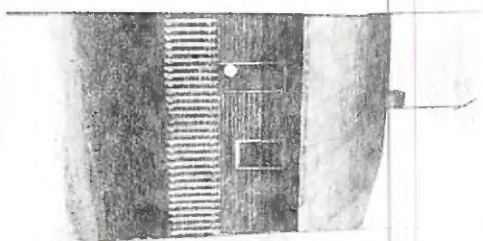


Small circular object

Small circular object

Small circular object

John Muir = leather tanner



See Red  
Sandstone  
Home  
in this  
Book

Now is plastered & is  
Lynnon Watkins Home  
← 192 No 600 E Heber UT

located at 192 No. 600 E  
Heber Utah  
Now is plastered over the  
Red sandstone



Lewis Alexander succeeded his father as telephone manager and served until 1911 when he was followed by Sherrill Kimball. Mr. Kimball held the managership until 1914. Others were a Mr. Sullivan from 1914 to 1918; L. P. Vickers, 1918 to 1927; Tom Jones, 1927 to 1941 and Wesley C. Walton who has served since then.

There are now 14 operators, one chief operator, a service representative, a full time lineman, a part-time lineman and a custodian employed by the company in Heber. Six operators work during the day-time shift and in a day will handle some 11,000 local calls and 336 long distance calls, in addition to emergency work with the fire and police departments.

### MINING

Mining also played an important role in Heber's business picture. While the mining operations of the county have not been physically located in Heber, some 60 per cent of the employees of Park Utah Mine at Keetley came from Heber and Midway. During the height of its operation, the mine was responsible for about \$20,000 a month in payroll to residents of the two communities. The mining story is told in more detail in Chapter 16 and 32.

### TANNERY AND SHOE SHOPS

Early pioneers in Heber were without the luxury of a shoemaker, and harness makers were without the facilities of a tannery to produce leather. However, in the spring of 1863 an experienced shoemaker named Gustaf Johnson from Sweden was persuaded to move to Heber and open a shoe trade. He set up shop on the home he built at the corner of First East and Second North. It was not until 1878, however, that a tannery was established. The cooperative project was established by businessmen of the community with John Muir as superintendent and John Holfeltz of Midway as the tanner.

The bark from oak, hemlock and pine trees was used in curing the leather, and was found in abundance in the canyons. However, preparing the leather properly was a long, tedious process and the demand for footwear was so great that usually half-tanned leather was taken from the vats and used. This resulted in loose, flabby shoes in wet weather and hard, stiff leather in dry weather. The tannery building was located near what is now 565 East 2nd North.

Mr. Johnson, the first shoemaker, obtained much leather from the old tannery and made excellent shoes and boots by hand. He continued his trade until he died in 1910. A grandson, Ralph Johnson, learned the trade in the shop and made shoes for friends or relatives, but never worked on a commercial basis.

Alfred Dahlman, another pioneer shoemaker, came from Sweden



John Roberts and his son Orson, who provided 67 years of shoe making and mending service to Wasatch County. He opened this store in 1892.

in 1878 where he had learned the trade. He and John Danielson, a harness maker, set up a shop on Hatch Row where he worked for some 22 years. Mr. Dahlman sewed and made the shoes entirely by hand. He turned the ladies shoes inside out to sew them. He, like the other shoemakers, obtained leather from the tannery and later from Z.C.M.I. in Salt Lake City.

John Roberts also served the community as a pioneer shoemaker, doing his work at first by hand, making men's boots as well as men's and ladies shoes and was very competent at his work. He had learned the trade in England coming here in 1892 and worked at his little shop in Heber on First West and Second North for 27 years. After his death his son, Orson, having been trained by his father, continued in the business totaling 67 years shoe mending service by the Roberts family. Orson sold the shop in 1960 to Allen Sabey.

Other shoemakers through the years in Heber have been Carl J. E. Hertell, Royal Ellis and Roe Carlile.

### ICE BUSINESS

Refrigeration has come a long way since the first settlers built their log homes in Heber Valley. The early merchant had quite a problem to keep his food fresh, especially meat, in warm weather. The men in the ice business would use the ponds the millers had for water power. In the